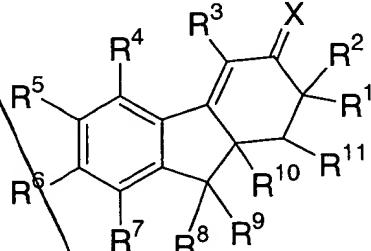


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the Claim 1 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

(Twice amended) A compound of the formula:



wherein X is selected from the group consisting of: O, N-OR^a, N-NR^aR^b and C₁-6 alkylidene, wherein said alkylidene group is unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from hydroxy, amino, O(C₁-4alkyl), NH(C₁-4alkyl), or N(C₁-4alkyl)₂;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, and C₂₋₆alkynyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl and alkynyl groups are either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from OR^c, SR^c, NR^bR^c, C(=O)R^c, C(=O)CH₂OH, or phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl, OH, O(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH₂, NH(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, halo, CN, NO₂, CO₂H, CO₂(C₁₋₄alkyl), C(O)H, and C(O)(C₁₋₄alkyl);

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, iodo, $O(C=O)R^c$, $C(=O)R^c$, CO_2R^c , $C_1\text{-}6$ alkyl, $C_2\text{-}6$ alkenyl, and $C_2\text{-}6$ alkynyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl and alkynyl groups are either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from OR^c , SR^c , NR^bR^c , $C(=O)R^c$, $C(=O)CH_2OH$, or phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of $C_1\text{-}4$ alkyl, OH, $O(C_1\text{-}4\text{alkyl})$, NH_2 , $NH(C_1\text{-}4\text{alkyl})$, $NH(C_1\text{-}4\text{alkyl})_2$, halo, CN, NO_2 , CO_2H , $CO_2(C_1\text{-}4\text{alkyl})$, $C(O)H$, and $C(O)(C_1\text{-}4\text{alkyl})$;

or R¹ and R², when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a carbonyl group;

or R¹ and R², when taken together, form a C₁₋₆ alkylidene group, wherein said alkylidene group is either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, O(C₁₋₄alkyl), N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, and phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl, OH, O(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH₂, NH(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, halo, CN, NO₂, CO₂H, CO₂(C₁₋₄alkyl), C(O)H, and C(O)(C₁₋₄alkyl);

*B/T
Cont*

R³ is selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, NR^aRC, OR^a, C(=O)R^a, CO₂RC, CONR^aRC, SRA, S(=O)R^a, SO₂R^a, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, C₂₋₁₀alkynyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, 4-7 membered heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl, and heteroarylalkyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl groups are either unsubstituted or independently substituted with 1, 2 or 3 groups selected from fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, OR^a, NR^aRC, O(C=O)R^a, O(C=O)NR^aRC, NR^a(C=O)RC, NR^a(C=O)ORC, C(=O)R^a, CO₂R^a, CONR^aRC, CSNR^aRC, SRA, S(O)R^a, SO₂R^a, SO₂NR^aRC, YR^d, and ZYR^d;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and fluoro;

R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, amino, OR^b, OR^a, O(C=O)RC, O(C=O)ORC, and NH(C=O)RC;

R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl, OR^b, OR^a, O(C=O)RC, and O(C=O)ORC;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, OR^b, NR^bRC, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, CF₃, and CHF₂;

R⁸ and R⁹ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₂₋₆alkenyl, and C₂₋₆alkynyl, or R⁸ and R⁹, when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a 3-5 membered cycloalkyl ring,

or R⁸ and R⁹, when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a carbonyl group;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, C₂₋₁₀alkynyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl and heteroarylalkyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl and heteroarylalkyl groups can be optionally substituted with a group selected from chloro, bromo, iodo, OR^b, SR^b, C(=O)R^b, or 1-5 fluoro,

or R¹⁰ and R¹, when taken together with the three intervening carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a 5-6 membered cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl ring which can be optionally substituted with 1 or 2 groups selected from oxo, hydroxy, or C₁₋₆alkyl;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₄alkyl;

R^a is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, and phenyl, wherein said alkyl group can be optionally substituted with a group selected from hydroxy, amino, O(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH(C₁₋₄alkyl), N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, phenyl, or 1-5 fluoro, and wherein said phenyl groups can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl, OH, O(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH₂, NH(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, halo, CN, NO₂, CO₂H, CO₂(C₁₋₄alkyl), C(O)H, and C(O)(C₁₋₄alkyl);

R^b is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, benzyl and phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl, OH, O(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH₂, NH(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, halo, CN, NO₂, CO₂H, CO₂(C₁₋₄alkyl), C(O)H, and C(O)(C₁₋₄alkyl);

R^c is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀alkyl and phenyl, wherein said phenyl group can either be unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄alkyl, OH, O(C₁₋₄alkyl), NH₂, NH(C₁₋₄alkyl),

~~NH(C₁₋₄alkyl)2, halo, CN, NO₂, CO₂H, CO₂(C₁₋₄alkyl), C(O)H, and C(O)(C₁₋₄alkyl);~~

~~or R^a and R^c, whether or not on the same atom, can be taken together with any attached and intervening atoms to form a 4-7 membered ring;~~

~~R^d is selected from the group consisting of NR^bR^c, OR^a, CO₂R^a, O(C=O)R^a, CN, NR^c(C=O)R^b, CONR^aR^c, SO₂NR^aR^c, and a 4-7 membered N-heterocycloalkyl ring that can be optionally interrupted by O, S, NR^c, or C=O;~~

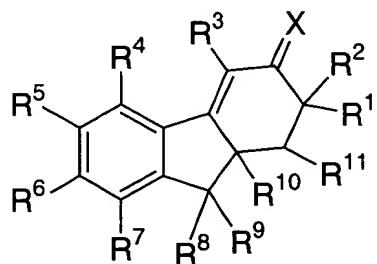
~~Y is selected from the group consisting of CR^bR^c, C₂₋₆ alkylene and C₂₋₆ alkenylene, wherein said alkylene and alkenylene linkers can be optionally interrupted by O, S, or NR^c;~~

~~Z is selected from the group consisting of O, S, NR^c, C=O, O(C=O), (C=O)O, NR^c(C=O) or (C=O)NR^c;~~

~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.~~

Please amend Claim 2 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

(Handwritten signature)
2. (Twice Amended) A compound of the formula:



wherein X is selected from the group consisting of O and N-OR^a;

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl, wherein said alkyl group is either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from OR^c or C(=O)R^c;

R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, iodo, and C₁₋₆alkyl, wherein said alkyl group is either unsubstituted or substituted with a group selected from OR^c or C(=O)R^c;

~~R³ is selected from the group consisting of chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, C₁-10alkyl, C₂-10alkenyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, aryl and heteroaryl groups are either unsubstituted or independently substituted with 1, 2 or 3 groups selected from fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, OR^a, NR^aRC, C(=O)R^a, CO₂R^c, NR^aC(=O)R^c, CONR^aRC, CSNR^aRC, SRA, YR^d, and ZYR^d;~~

~~R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and fluoro;~~

~~R⁵ and R⁶ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, O(C=O)R^c and OR^a;~~

~~R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, NR^bRC, chloro, bromo, nitro and C₁-6alkyl;~~

~~R⁸ and R⁹ are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁-6alkyl;~~

~~or R⁸ and R⁹, when taken together with the carbon atom to which they are attached, form a carbonyl group;~~

~~R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-10alkyl, C₂-10alkenyl, C₃-6cycloalkyl and cycloalkylalkyl, wherein said alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl and cycloalkylalkyl groups can be optionally substituted with a group selected from OR^b, SR^b, C(=O)R^b, or 1-5 fluoro; or R¹⁰ and R¹, when taken together with the three intervening carbon atoms to which they are attached, form a 5-6 membered cycloalkyl ring which can be optionally substituted with C₁-6alkyl;~~

~~R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁-4alkyl;~~

~~R^a is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-10alkyl, and phenyl, wherein said alkyl group can be optionally substituted with a group selected from hydroxy, amino, O(C₁-4alkyl), NH(C₁-4alkyl), N(C₁-4alkyl)₂, phenyl, or 1-5 fluoro;~~

~~R^b is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁-10alkyl, benzyl and phenyl;~~

~~R^c is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁-10alkyl and phenyl; or R^a and R^c, whether or not on the same atom, can be taken together with any attached and intervening atoms to form a 4-7 membered ring;~~

~~R^d is selected from the group consisting of NR^bRC, OR^a, CO₂R^a, O(C=O)R^a, CN, NR^c(C=O)R^b, CONR^aRC, SO₂NR^aRC, and a 4-7 membered N-heterocycloalkyl ring that can be optionally interrupted by O, S, NR^c, or C=O;~~

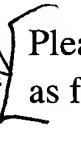
~~Y is selected from the group consisting of CR^bRC, C₂₋₆ alkylene and C₂₋₆ alkenylene, wherein said alkylene and alkenylene linkers can be optionally interrupted by O, S, or NR^c;~~

~~Z is selected from the group consisting of O, S, NR^c, C=O, O(C=O), (C=O)O, NR^c(C=O) or (C=O)NR^c;~~

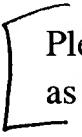
~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.~~

 Please amend Claim 3 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

3. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 2, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of O, N-OH and N-OCH₃, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

 Please amend Claim 4 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

4. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 3, wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of OR^a and O(C=O)R^c or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

 Please amend Claim 5 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

5. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 4, wherein R³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, chloro, bromo, iodo, cyano, C₁₋₁₀alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein said alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl groups are either unsubstituted or independently substituted with 1, 2 or 3 groups selected from fluoro, chloro, bromo, cyano, NR^aRC, C(=O)R^a, CO₂RC, CONR^aRC, SR^a, YR^d, and ZYR^d, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Please amend Claim 5 with the clean version provided immediately below to read as follows:

6. (Amended) The compound according to Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

4-bromo-7-hydroxy-9a-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(3*E*)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one oxime;

9a-[(1*E*)-1-butenyl]-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-3-methylene-2,3,9,9a-tetrahydro-1*H*-fluoren-7-ol;

9a-butyl-4-cyano-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-benzyl-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a butyl-7-hydroxy-4-(2-thienyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-ene;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-{4-[2-(1-piperidinyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*E*)-3-[4-(9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-3-oxo-2,3,9,9a-tetrahydro-1*H*-fluoren-4-yl)phenyl]-2-propenoic acid;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-8-methyl-1,2,9,9a-3*H*-tetrahydro-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-8-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a butyl-4,8-dimethyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*S*,9*a**S**R*)-9*a*-butyl-2,4-dimethyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*S*,9*a**R**S*)-9*a*-butyl-2,4-dimethyl-7-hydroxy-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2,2,4-trimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*S*,9*a**R**S*)-9*a*-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-iodo-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*S*,9*a**R**S*)-9*a*-butyl-2,7-dihydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*R**S*,9*a**S**R*)-9*a*-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-(2-hydroxyethyl)-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*S*,9*a**S**R*)-2-allyl-9*a*-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*R**S*,9*a**S**R*)-9*a*-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-(3-hydroxy-2-oxopropyl)-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(9*S**R*,9*a**S**R*)-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

4-acetyl-9*a*-butyl-8-chloro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

~~9a-butyl-8-chloro-4-cyano-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;~~

9a-butyl-4-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-8-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-4-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

~~4-bromo-9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;~~

~~9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;~~

2-hydroxy-5-methylgibba-1(10a),2,4,4b-tetraen-6-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-3-oxo-2,3,9,9a-1H-fluoren-7-yl pivalate;

7-hydroxy-4,9a-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

7-hydroxy-9a-isobutyl-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4-ethyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

4,9a-dibutyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-butyl-4-chloro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-iodo-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-trifluoromethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-phenyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-butyl-4-(2-furyl)-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
7-hydroxy-9a-(3-iodopropyl)-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-(2-methyl-1-propenyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-butyl-4-{4-[2-(dimethylamino)ethoxy]phenyl}-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;
9a-butyl-4-{4-[2-(diethylamino)ethoxy]-phenyl}-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;
9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-{4-[2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;
9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-{4-[2-(4-morpholinyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;
9a-butyl-4-{4-[3-(dimethylamino)propoxy]-phenyl}-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;
9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-{4-[3-(1-piperidinyl)propoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one hydrochloride;

(3E)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one *O*-methyloxime;

(2SR,9aSR)-9a-butyl-2-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

(2SR,9aSR)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

(2SR,9aSR)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

(2SR,9aSR)-4,9a-dibutyl-7-hydroxy-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

(2SR,9aSR)-4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

(2RS,9aSR)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2-(2-oxoethyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

(2SR,9aSR)-2,9a-dibutyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

(2RS,9aRS)-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2,4-dimethyl-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-2,2-dipropyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-2,2-dipropyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

(2SR,9aRS)-9a-butyl-2,7-dihydroxy-4-methyl-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-2,2-diethyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*S*,9a*S*)-7-hydroxy-2,4,9a-trimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*S*,9a*S*)-7-hydroxy-4,9a-dimethyl-2-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

(2*S*,9a*S*)-9a-butyl-8-chloro-2-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-chloro-9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-9a-propyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-9a-[(1*E*)-1-propenyl]-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-8-nitro-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

8-amino-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-8-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;

~~100~~
~~Con~~

9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-8-methyl-4-{4-[2-piperidinyl)-ethoxy]phenyl}-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

4-bromo-7-hydroxy-9a-propyl-1H-fluorene-3,9(2H,9aH)-dione;

4,8-dibromo-7-hydroxy-9a-propyl-1H-fluorene-3,9(2H,9aH)-dione;

4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-6-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-8-chloro-4-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,9,9a-tetrahydro-1H-fluoren-7-yl pivalate;

9a-butyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4-ethyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

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9a-butyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-butyl-4,8-dibromo-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

8-chloro-9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

8-bromo-9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one;

4,9a-diethyl-6,8-difluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
4-bromo-8-chloro-9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
4-bromo-8-chloro-9a-(cyclopentylmethyl)-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-ethyl-5-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
8-bromo-9a-ethyl-5-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-ethyl-6,7-dihydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
8-bromo-9a-ethyl-6,7-dihydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-ethyl-6-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
9a-ethyl-6-hydroxy-4-vinyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
4-allyl-9a-ethyl-6-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
2-hydroxy-5-methyl-7,8,9,10-tetrahydro-7,10a-methanocycloocta[*a*]inden-6(11*H*)-one;
7-amino-4-bromo-9a-butyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
7-amino-4,8-dibromo-9a-ethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

Please add the following new claims:

22. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-ethyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

23. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

24. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 4-bromo-9a-butyl-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

25. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-butyl-8-chloro-7-hydroxy-4-methyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

26. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-butyl-8-chloro-4-cyano-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

27. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4,8-dimethyl-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

28. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 4-bromo-8-chloro-9a-ethyl-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

29. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 4-bromo-9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3H-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

30. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 9a-butyl-8-chloro-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.

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31. (New) The compound of Claim 6 which is 4-bromo-8-chloro-9a-(cyclopentylmethyl)-6-fluoro-7-hydroxy-1,2,9,9a-tetrahydro-3*H*-fluoren-3-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or stereoisomer thereof.